

ADVANCE NOTICE OF THE REQUEST FOR INFORMATION TO MANUFACTURERS AND FACTORIES FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE NATO ENGINE PILOT

NATO Support and Procurement Agency (NSPA) is looking to invite manufacturers and factories to express their interest in becoming affiliated with the NATO Engine pilot in the following three categories: (1) additive manufacturing, (2) engineering services, and (3) manufacturing-as-a-service.

1. OVERVIEW AND PURPOSE OF THE RFI

The NATO Engine is a new initiative, launched at the 2026 NATO Summit in Ankara, seeking to augment defence and industrial production capacity in the Alliance by facilitating industry access to a broader range of factories, in particular from the civilian sector, to scale new technological products to meet Allied defence needs.

The NATO Engine will operate as a network bringing together manufacturers and factories who have flexible production capacity together with companies, in particular non-traditional suppliers, who require facilities to scale their production under a contractor- or factory-for hire model.

To pilot the NATO Engine, in this initial RFI, NSPA is seeking to create a list of manufacturers and factories with available capacity foreseen for the coming 12 months across (1) additive manufacturing, (2) engineering services, and (3) manufacturing-as-a-service. NSPA will assess responses to this RFI in order to list manufacturers' and factories' information on the forthcoming NATO Engine online platform.

In the next step of the NATO Engine pilot, companies, in particular non-traditional suppliers and small and medium-sized enterprises, from across the Alliance seeking production capacity and/or manufacturing services will be able to easily apply for access to the platform to identify suitable manufacturers and factories with whom they may wish to enter into commercial arrangements. Purpose of the RFI:

- Identify manufacturers and factories, particularly from the civilian sector, with available capacity foreseen in the coming 12 months;
- Review and publish list of interested and capable companies' capacity in secure and interoperable platform;
- Ultimately provide opportunities for business-to-business (B2B) matchmaking between the manufacturers and factories with companies, in particular non-traditional suppliers, seeking production capacity and/or manufacturing services to meet Allied defence needs; and
- Engage select manufacturers and factories for further exchanges with NATO and Allies on augmenting defence industrial production capacity.

2. OPERATIONAL CONTEXT AND SCOPE

Responses to this RfI will be used as the basis for manufacturers' and factories' listings on the NATO Engine platform. NSPA will assess responses to the RfI and contact manufacturers and factories for next steps. Information provided in response to the RfI will not be automatically included in the NATO Engine pilot platform. Responders will have the opportunity to determine what level of information they make accessible in the forthcoming NATO Engine pilot platform by September 2026.¹

The envisaged areas of interest include, but not limited to:

- Automotive;
- Electronic manufacturing services;
- Aerospace;
- Metalworking;
- Additive manufacturing/3D printing;
- Digital engineering;
- Mechanical engineering;
- Others.

The NATO Engine pilot will be hosted on a digital platform hosted by NSPA. The initial version of this platform will be online in September 2026, with a view to continuously improving it over the course of the pilot. This platform, leveraging NSPA's existing Repository for Additively manufactured Products in a Digital environment (RAPiD-e), will offer an interoperable and secure registry for B2B exchanges of information.

3. REQUESTED INFORMATION

NSPA invites capable vendors to express their interest in the NATO Engine pilot and submit their response no later than 27 August 2026. Detailed responses shall be provided in the questionnaires contained in the following link:
<https://www.nspa.nato.int/newsroom/events/request-for-information-for-nato-engine>

Future RfIs pertaining to the NATO Engine will be made available on the NSPA website over the course of the pilot in 2026 and 2027.

4. DISCLAIMER

¹ If desired by the respective nation where your entity is domiciled, this information may be anonymised on the platform.

NATO DISCLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

- This RFI is not a Request for Proposal (RFP) and it is not to be construed as a commitment by NSPA to issue a solicitation or ultimately award a contract.
- Neither NATO/NSPA nor Allies will participate in matching of the companies. Commercial arrangements made through the NATO Engine network will be on a business-to-business basis.
- NATO/NSPA or Allies shall not be liable of any outcomes of the B2B relations resulting from matching, including but not limited to, disputes.
- Responses provided by email will not be considered.